SECTION C — (3 × 10 = 30 marks)

Answer any THREE questions.

16. Describe the origin and classification of the Indo-European family of languages and explain English's position within it.

17. Analyse the major influences on the expansion of English vocabulary over time.

18. Trace the development of Standard English, highlighting key historical milestones.

19. Compare and contrast the contributions of Latin, Greek, and French to the English language.

20. Analyse the role of English as a world language, considering its advantages and challenges.

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APRIL/MAY 2025

FEN42/CEN42 — HISTORY OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Time : Three hours Maximum : 75 marks

SECTION A — (10 × 2 = 20 marks)

Answer ALL questions.

1. Name two characteristic features of the English language.

2. What is the significance of the Indo-European family of languages?

3. What is the difference between core vocabulary and loanwords?

4. Define 'neologism' with an example.

5. Name two factors that contributed to variations in English spelling.

6. What was the significance of Samuel Johnson's dictionary?

7. Give two examples of Latin words borrowed into English.

8. How did the French language influence English after the Norman Conquest?

9. Mention two major differences between British and American English spelling.

10. Name one factor that contributed to the dominance of English as a global language.

SECTION B — (5 × 5 = 25 marks)

Answer ALL questions.

11. (a) Discuss the key characteristics that make English a flexible and dynamic language.

Or

(b) Explain how the Indo-European language family influenced the development of English.

12. (a) Explain the role of word formation processes in the growth of English vocabulary.

Or

(b) Discuss the different types of semantic change with examples.

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13. (a) Explain how pronunciation changes have influenced English spelling overtime.

Or

(b) Discuss the role of dictionaries in standardising English spelling and pronunciation.

14. (a) Discuss the impact of Greek on scientific and technical vocabulary in English.

Or

(b) How did French influence the development of legal and administrative English?

15. (a) Explain the key phonetic and grammatical differences between British and American English.

Or

(b) Discuss the factors that contributed to the global spread of the English language.